

March 10, 2016

Chairs Doyle and Reed and esteemed members of the Energy and Technology Committee:

My name is Tony Hwang and I am state Senator of Connecticut's 28th District, and I am testifying in support of:

S.B. No. 394 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING VIRTUAL NET METERING AND CERTAIN ZERO OR LOW EMISSION GENERATION PROJECTS.

This proposal will accomplish a goal which is shared by many of us:

Enabling municipalities to save money over the long term and allowing towns to move forward on "shovel-ready" projects.

For example, I represent the town of Newtown.

Virtual net metering allows a town like Newtown to assign energy credits from a solar system to another metered account.

The benefit of this for Newtown is that it doesn't obstruct open spaces, it can provide significant savings, and it allows municipal facilities that are not ideal for solar to reap the benefits of solar energy production.

This proposal would raise the current cap for credits, thereby allowing Newtown and other towns to move forward in their efforts to "go green" and keep projects moving while generating long-term savings.

I believe all of our efforts during this session should be focused on policies which make Connecticut a more predictable, more sustainable, and a more transparent state.

By passing such policies, whether they be energy policies or budgetary measures, we make our state stronger over the long-term.

I urge your support of towns like Newtown and your support of S.B. 394.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tony Hwang". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.